

# KING COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## 1.50 Law & Legal CLE Credits – A/V Approval # 1165867

Recording Date - January 14, 2021

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Meeting Location	Date	Topic
The Safety of Your Home	<b>Thursday, January 14, 2021</b>	Meeting the Housing Crisis Head-On: Resolving Landlord-Tenant Disputes in the Shadow of Eviction Moratoriums

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### AGENDA

**11:55 AM** Introduction

**12:00 PM** Presentation: 'Meeting the Housing Crisis Head-On: Resolving Landlord-Tenant Disputes in the Shadow of Eviction Moratoriums', by LaDessa Croucher, Volunteers of America Dispute Resolution Center (DRC), Sue McCarthy, Dispute Resolution Center of King County and Edmund Witter, King County Bar Association-Housing Justice Project

With compressed review and determination timelines under the Residential Landlord-Tenant Act (RCW 59.18) and the Unlawful Detainer statute (RCW 59.12) this session will discuss how and why Superior Court judges, Resolution Washington (ResWA) and the DRCs in 7 counties are preparing for an anticipated deluge of unlawful detainer filings upon expiration of Washington state's Covid-19 response eviction moratoriums.

**1:30 PM** Adjourn

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### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

**LaDessa Croucher, Volunteers of America Dispute Resolution Center (DRC)** – LaDessa Croucher is the Senior Director for Volunteers of America Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) serving Snohomish, Island and Skagit Counties. LaDessa has 18 years' experience implementing conflict resolution services for courts, tribes, housing, police and community. LaDessa has served on the National Association for Community Mediation board (2013-2018) and in Leadership at Resolution Washington, the statewide association of Dispute Resolution Centers. She is the lead coordinator through Resolution WA for the Eviction Resolution Project. The DRC was founded by Volunteers of America in 1982 as the Rental Housing Mediation Service and serves as the Fair Housing Counselor for Snohomish County.

**Sue McCarthy, Dispute Resolution Center of King County** – Sue McCarthy is the Eviction Resolution Project Manager at the Dispute Resolution Center of King County. She manages a 3-person team of eviction resolution case managers. Sue has been mediating conflicts for over 12 years in a variety of settings including settlement conferencing, mediation and telephone conciliation. Most recently she worked as Civil Rights Mediator at the City of Seattle and as Fair Housing Counselor and Trainer at the Dispute Resolution Center of Snohomish, Island and Skagit Counties. She has mentored dozens of housing navigators working with people facing the risk of homelessness. She was a presenter at TRENDS Rental Housing Management Conference in Seattle, as well as the Ending Homelessness Conference in Tacoma. Sue has personally mediated dozens of landlord-tenant conflicts in-person, via video conference and telephone conciliation.

**Edmund Witter, King County Bar Association-Housing Justice Project** – Edmund Witter is the Senior Managing Attorney at the Housing Justice Project, King County Bar Association. Prior to that, he was the Supervising Attorney of the Housing Unit at the Legal Aid Society of New York City.